

## **Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 48**

### **RESOLUTION CHAPTER 118**

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 48—Relative to the Paramount Hay Tree in the City of Paramount.

[Filed with Secretary of State August 31, 2006.]

#### **LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

SCR 48, Lowenthal. Paramount Hay Tree in the City of Paramount.

This measure would declare that specified exits on State Highway Routes 91 and 710 should be designated with signs noting the presence of the Paramount Hay Tree, a state historical landmark in the City of Paramount. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing that designation, and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs.

WHEREAS, The region of southeast Los Angeles County and northwest Orange County was dominated by the dairy industry during the first half of the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, The towns of Hynes and Clearwater, which would later incorporate together and become the City of Paramount, were the hub of this regional dairy country with hundreds of dairies, and also developed as the central marketplace for trading hay and cattle, and became known as the “Milk Shed of Los Angeles” and “The World’s Largest Hay Market;” and

WHEREAS, The total Hynes-Clearwater hay market was so large and influential that each day’s median price of hay, based on the prices set by the many hay lots, was quoted by the mercantile markets in New York City and printed in major newspapers as the standard for the world; and

WHEREAS, A mature camphor tree, dubbed the “Hay Tree,” was where representatives from all of the area hay lots would gather each day to compare notes and determine that median price for hay sellers and the world; and

WHEREAS, As one of the few remaining social and economic symbols of the once-pervasive hay and dairy industry in Los Angeles and Orange Counties, the Paramount Hay Tree was named a historical landmark by the State Historical Resources Commission; and

WHEREAS, One of the benefits of gaining that recognition, according to the commission, is having signs placed on nearby state highways noting the presence of historical landmarks, and recognition of the Paramount Hay Tree would encourage visits to the site and the City of Paramount and

recognize the city for its important role in the agricultural history of California; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring,* That the following exits should be designated with State Historical Landmark signs noting the presence of the Paramount Hay Tree: the Paramount Boulevard exit on State Highway Route 91 North and the Paramount Boulevard exit on State Highway Route 91 South; and the Alondra Boulevard exit on State Highway Route 710 East and the Alondra Boulevard exit on State Highway Route 710 West; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Department of Transportation is requested to determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system, showing these designations, and upon receiving donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover that cost, to erect these signs; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author and the Department of Transportation for appropriate distribution.